

STATE SENATOR • MICHAEL PRUSI • 38TH DISTRICT
Prusi Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 25, 2006

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Prusi Announces \$5.3M in U.P. Road Projects

MDOT Begins Jobs Today Transportation Investment

LANSING—The first round of road projects in Governor Jennifer M. Granholm's *Jobs Today* transportation investment program became a reality today as matching grants to local communities from the Michigan Department of Transportation were announced this morning. State Senator Michael Prusi (D-Ispheming) announced that the central and western Upper Peninsula will receive \$5,337,854 for projects in Alger, Baraga, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Marquette, Menominee and Ontonagon Counties.

"This announcement couldn't have come at a better time," said Prusi. "These projects will bring thousands of jobs and millions of dollars to our Upper Peninsula economy, repairing and improving the roads that connect our beautiful woods and waters while also preserving our U.P. way of life."

Projects and 25% Local Jobs Today Match Totals Include:

- Upgrades to Prospect Street and road and bridge reconstruction on H-58 in Munising for \$2,942,419;
- Resurfacing & rehabilitating Bayshore Drive, Sturgeon, Arnheim and Mead Roads in Baraga County for \$290,000;
- Widening, paving, and adding guardrail along a number of county roads Dickinson Counties, including Leeman Road, Kimberly Road, Sawyer Road, and CR 569 for \$477,188;
- Repairing and resurfacing numerous roads in Delta County, including portions of CR 515, CR 497, CR 186, and CR 495 for \$350,747;
- Repairing South Boundary Road, which connects Presque Isle State Park to the Porcupine Mountains State Wilderness Area (Gogebic County) for \$165,000;
- Reconstruction and resurfacing along Jacobsville Road, Houghton Canal Road, and Askel Road, as well as improvements to the Sturgeon River Bridge in Houghton County for \$236,800;
- Culvert replacement, resurfacing, and shoulder work on CR 651 and CR 643 in Iron County for \$55,000;
- Upgrading Croix Street and reshaping several county roads (480, 492, 545, 550, 557, 601 and 498), or converting them to All Season Standards in Marquette County for \$721,500;
- Work at Chalk Hill Road and paving CR 348 from the Little Cedar River Bridge to CR 577 in Menominee County for \$74,200;
- Resurfacing Houghton/Lakeshore Drive in Ontonagon County for \$25,000.

"Nearly every aspect of our U.P. economy is tied to our roadways, serving as vital arteries to the logging industry and providing outside visitors and tourists a way to explore our natural beauty," said Prusi. "Investing in better roads and bridges revitalizes our economy on all sides."

In May, the House and Senate approved a measure, authored by Prusi, to designate \$80 million in the state's supplemental transportation budget to help county road commissions and local governments meet federal match funding requirements for federal transportation grants. The money will make the state eligible to receive \$320 million in federal funds earmarked for Michigan.

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